



**IRISHOAK, LLC**

February 28, 2012

The Honorable Julius Genachowski, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am writing because I was disappointed to hear that LightSquared was not granted the ability to launch its low-cost nationwide wireless broadband network. As a small businessman in the construction management industry, I am constantly traveling and wrestling with the lack of reliable high-speed wireless broadband coverage in upstate New York. Many of New York's small business owners were counting on our government to work toward a solution so that LightSquared could launch its network. Our country, especially rural America, needs greater access to reliable high-speed wireless broadband, and we need it now.

As you know, affordable telecommunications services are a key driver of economic growth in rural communities across the country. Given the direct relationship between broadband access and quality of life across the country, initiatives bridging the 'digital divide' should remain a top priority for the Federal Communications Commission.

National wireless companies face significant economic challenges in expanding their network into rural areas. That is why I am hopeful that the FCC will ultimately authorize the innovations developed by LightSquared to help bridge the digital divide via a uniquely integrated network that combines a satellite's ability to provide ubiquitous coverage with a ground-based 4G-LTE network.

Beyond helping our rural communities, small businesses like mine, and farmers access wireless infrastructure that will enable them to grow in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, LightSquared's wholesale-only model has the potential to significantly multiply competition in the U.S. wireless sector by enabling regional and niche partners to offer an affordable nationwide mobile broadband service to their customers.

I understand deployment of LightSquared's proposed network has been delayed due to interference concerns with Global Positioning System (GPS) devices. However, it appears that GPS devices have been designed to search for the GPS signal outside of GPS-allocated spectrum and are particularly susceptible to interference when searching specifically inside LightSquared's neighboring spectrum. Understanding the importance of GPS devices to our national defense, airline industry and everyday life, these uses should be encouraged with policies that spur further innovations in the utilization of the GPS signal.

While GPS devices have become a necessity in modern life, so has wireless broadband communications. Please do all that you can to help the GPS community and LightSquared develop technical solutions that will enable specific compatibility between GPS devices and the LightSquared network without any loss of GPS

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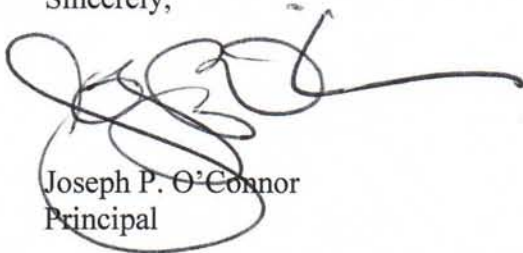
functionality. Such solutions would certainly drive more efficient use of this contested spectrum and help alleviate the spectrum crunch that threatens our nation's wireless market.

In addition, please work to facilitate incorporation of these solutions into GPS devices used by federal, commercial and military users so that our country can maximize use of valuable spectrum while increasing the reliability of GPS devices. Moreover, if the GPS interference issues cannot be mitigated in time for LightSquared to meet a FCC mandate to cover 260 million Americans nationwide with mobile broadband by 2015, for the sake of those New Yorkers, please work with LightSquared to relocate LightSquared's licenses to another band of suitable spectrum.

Working primarily in the field, I rely on wireless broadband communication services every day. At times my business operation can only be as efficient as the wireless broadband network available to me. This greatly affects productivity on both sides of the communication. If the technology is available it should be utilized not only to improve wireless broadband services, but also to encourage much need competition amongst the carriers.

Please work with LightSquared and our nation's GPS industry to resolve this matter so that our country can benefit from both GPS devices that work and the connectivity offered by LightSquared's unique network.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Joe O'Connor", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Joseph P. O'Connor  
Principal

Cc:

Senator Schumer  
Senator Gillibrand  
Congressman Tonko  
Congressman Ackerman  
Congresswoman Buerkle  
Congressman Hanna  
Congresswoman Hayworth  
Congressman Higgins  
Congressman Hinchey  
Congressman Israel  
Congressman King  
Congresswoman Lowey  
Congresswoman Maloney  
Congressman Owens  
Congressman Reed  
Congresswoman Slaughter  
Congressman Tonko  
Congressman Turner